



**The Bassano Mail**

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James L. Nesbitt, Editor

May God forbid our saying on this page the truth about the moral plagues. We would be humbug in our opinions, we would be condescend to the opinions of others, but we would not be unmindful of the immutable laws of cause and effect: for therein lies the wisdom of the ages.

**A DILEMMA OF DEBT**

The proposal made by Premier Aberhart that Alberta's bonds be forcibly refunded and interest rates reduced to three per cent has caused a sensation in the financial world. Alberta bonds have dropped to a point where sales are made only at heavy losses. The province could not possibly float a bond issue now under any circumstance.

But what is to be done? The province cannot go on paying interest at the rate of seven million dollars a year? The burden of \$160,000,000 of debt is utterly beyond the ability of the province to pay, at present prices for the principal production of Alberta.

There are two alternatives: one is to subscribe to the requirements of the federal government and accept guarantees. The other is to openly repudiate and lose the province's borrowing power.

The first proposition implies restrictions on spending and the second certainly forces Alberta to do without borrowing—possibly for a generation.

The position of the majority of Canadian provinces, from a financial standpoint, is unavoidable. Alberta's debt, as mentioned previously, is around \$160,000,000. Saskatchewan and British Columbia are not far behind in their total indebtedness. Ontario owes close to \$600,000,000.

The total debt of the federal government is around \$3,000,000,000 and the total debt of all governments in Canada about six billions of dollars.

The debt burden, as a consequence, is staggering and, when combined with the load of the cost of all governments, it must be obvious that the load is beyond the capacity of the people of the dominion to carry.

The Canadian debt, per capita, is at least twice the per capita debt of the United States and our ability to pay, on the same basis, is not nearly as large.

John Maynard Keynes, one of the foremost of world economists, and a man who is not afraid to change his opinion, has come to the decision that the rentier class—those who live entirely or partly on interest—must be sacrificed for the welfare of all nations.

Maybe that is the answer to Canada's problem. Maybe the collectors of interest must be content with a refunding—or nothing.

But one thing is certain and that is that such a policy will preclude the selling of bonds to the public. For those with savings will certainly not be agreeable to loan them without interest to any government.

**SHORT IN BANKING FACILITIES**

It is denied that people are keeping any large amount of money hidden away in socks—that method belonged to a bygone age. People used to hoard money in socks but that was when they had two pairs of socks.—Sudden Star.

**A TERRIBLE MASTER**

Sitting high and dry on the rising land which marks the lift of the prairies towards the Rocky Mountains, Alberta reads of the inundating floods in eastern Canada and the United States, which have caused the loss of many lives and hundreds of millions of dollars of property damage.

Here the snow run-off is gradual and floods do not occur from that cause. The immense snow accumulations on the peaks of the Rockies melt gradually and the waters are carried away by the rivers along courses deep-cut in the soft soil of the prairies. Only torrential rains and warm weather in June and July cause damaging floods, and then loss of life is the exception.

The cause of the spring floods in the east this year lies in the hard winter that was experienced. The ground was frozen to an exceptional depth and the snow water could not permeate the soil. So it all ran off on the surface, swelling tiny creeks into rivers and rivers into great torrents.

To read of devastating floods does not impress one like seeing such a disaster. An uncontrollable water flood is one of the most damaging things imaginable. Water, like fire, is a good servant, but a merciless master. When beyond control it sweeps along on its destructive course utterly careless of the welfare of mankind.

**ASTRONOMICAL FIGURES**

Occasionally when an astronomer breaks into print, the people of the world are left at the hugeness of the figures he uses.

The human mind can visualize a few hundred miles or even a few thousand, but when the total runs into millions the brain becomes numb and ceases to function.

On the 18th of January last a "nova stella" swung into the range of the largest of the world's telescopes. Actually this new star was not in existence at all, because it had exploded some seven million years ago, but it was so far away it took the light all those long centuries to reach the earth.

Astronomers at Mount Wilson Observatory in California state that the distance of this exploded star from the earth was 42,000,000,000,000,000,000 miles. We'll have to take their word for it.

A year ago last January Professor Fritz Zwicky, noted astrophysicist of the California Institute of Technology, urged scientists to look into Virgo constellation for such a "supernova", as it is designated.

Dr. Edwin P. Hubble found this exploding star in the cluster of Virgo with a 100-inch telescope within a year from Prof. Zwicky's suggestion.

If the sun would similarly explode, Dr. Zwicky said, in eight and a half minutes the earth would be nothing but a hot cloud of gas, drifting into space. But he thinks there is no immediate cause for alarm as scientists have estimated the sun is only 2,900,000,000 years old and has about 1,500,000,000 years yet to live.

**TOO DEEP FOR US!**

The Morgan dictum that civilization consists of having a mad, rases a question as to the Thursday off. Does the household revert to barbarism?—The Plainedealer (Drumheller).

**EYES ON CANADA**

Colin Ross is a Scotch name, if there ever was one, but the individual hearing that appellation is German, who belongs to the National Socialist party (Nazis).

Herr Ross is a much-travelled man and, of all countries, Canada has caught his eye as a probable "promised land" for Germans. He thinks unbelievable possibilities for Germany exist in Canada which he classifies as "one of the few remaining virgin territories on earth".

Canada is peopled by incompetents, Herr Ross thinks, and Canadians cannot organize their country in such a way as to take advantage of the great riches provided by the natural resources. Only such a race of "iron hard" people, such as he says Germany is developing, can work out the proper destiny for such a wealthy and fruitful country.

So Canada now knows what is in store for her if her people fail to grasp the opportunities at hand!

**PAUL BUNYAN STORY**

"Down where I live," said the Texan, "we grew a pumpkin so big that when we cut it my wife used one half for a cradle."

"Well," smiled the man from Chicago, "that's nothing. A few days ago, right here, two full-grown policemen were found asleep on one beat."

**A GREAT "JOINER"**

President Franklin D. Roosevelt, of the United States, is a great "joiner". His latest affiliation is with the Knights of Pythias, a fraternal organization whose special purpose is to provide sickness, disability and funeral benefits.

The inspiration of the founders of the Knights of Pythias was the story of Damon and Pythias, two Syracusans. Pythias, condemned by Dionysius to die, got permission to visit his home and left Damon as hostage, whose fate was so great that he was certain Pythias would return, even though it meant death. Pythias did return and was pardoned.

The president is a member of eleven fraternal organizations, namely: the Masons, Elks, Odd Fellows, National Sojourners, Macabees, Eagles, Try-poo-bed Grotto, Alpha Delta Phi, Order of Shepherds and Order of Ahepa, and now the Knights of Pythias.

**FAIR ENOUGH**

A lady on the Bassano local train asked the conductor about hotel accommodations at a little town up the line where she expected to get off.

"There ain't a hotel there," said the conductor, "but you can sleep with the station agent."

"Sir!" she exclaimed, "I'll have you know that I'm a lady."

"That's all right," drawled the conductor, "so is the station agent."

**Ten Minutes with the Scotch Philosopher**

In the midst of his numerous difficulties, Premier Aberhart has the support of at least one staunch die-hard.

Writing to a member of our small household a lady named these words, "I am old and lame, and up against it in many ways, but I am going to rest for that man and his cause until I die."

Very different from the fellow we recently heard about. After twenty years' residence in the country, he is still without citizenship; most of the money he earns goes back to his distant fatherland, and, according to a great deal of Soviet principles, is now clamoring for dividends.

Our idea of a dividend for this kind lad would be a swift ride back to his old home town.

What do you think?

Members of the fair sex who love to think that the spirit of chivalry still survives will be disappointed in this little tale. At a social gathering held some time ago a group of young men were playing cards with a lady companion, and urged them to dance with the lassies.

With a smile she said: "Oh, don't forget this is Leap Year, so if any of you receive a proposal and can't accept it, just say the Dennis and I will be married." What is that?" asked our young fellow. "A kiss and a silken gown," was the reply. "Oh, to do that to the players, 'if a guy has got to do that he just as well as marry the girl.'—An example of what was said to have happened to a pair of deacons who had been to a rural fish fry. 'I'd tell a jape like that to jump in the creek.'

Nothing daunted the lady delivered a knockout punch in the form of these words: "If all the boys were that nice, the girls would be the right place to go to."

Tim has changed so much that anybody who set that pace nowadays would either be fined for blocking the highway or get pushed into the ditch by some wrathful speed-bump.

Anything at all can happen in the big country to the south of us, as this queer little yarn will illustrate. On divorcing his wife, a guy went to a barbershop.

After living with her for eight months he returned to the first one. Now number two wants her hubby back on the ground that she alone has a legal right to him.

In the meantime, the tickle had set in again, and Tim was back in the pub and wants them to become friends.

This may look pretty good to him, but if we ever got into a Jackie Blue that we'd be hitting up the trail pretty fast.

"I hope it won't be necessary to shore coal in the next world!" So said old Jake the other day as he sadly viewed a broken axle on his truck, which was loaded with the use-

**The Pioneer Home**

By EDNA JAQUES  
A shack of crude unpainted boards.  
A fire-guard and plow,  
A rude new windlass at the well,  
A thin old spotted cow.

A few hens scratching by the door,  
Along the straw.

A new calf tethered in the yard,

Yet somehow . . . it was home.

And though a wide horizon lay

Against a faint sky,

With a few houses to see

Or people passing by,

Yet somehow it was home to us.

Who dared its lonely sweep,

For us the trust of breaking sod

And ours the field to keep.

For me a tiny shack I saw

The home that it would be,

And crooked furrows fresh and brown

An harvest field for me.

Old trails that would cross across the plain

Would grow to highways broad

For multitude would beat them wide

These colds we trod.

For mother with the lantern lit

Would always watch and wait;

She'd run to meet us coming home

And bring us beside the gate.

She'd have the house so warm and bright,

The table set, and all,

When we'd be teaming wheat to town

Those colds day after the fall.

And so the years have come and gone

Have brought their good and ill.

We've seen a lot of dreams come true

And we're dreaming still.

The dear old farm is just the same.

The furrows just as brown,

And mother lights the lantern yet

When I come home from town

Int commodity.

Inspiring this to another wagon

Not to speak of we say on the

subject, but it's a high degree in the

art of profanity has anything to do

with a man's final destination, Jake

will certainly wind up in the place

where George Bin is said to be "giving dirhams to poor families who

have more than fifteen words in

his vocabulary than any fellow we

ever met, but apart from this failing

which condemns in the eyes of many,

Jake is an unusually fine man.

Possessing a medal for saving life

and a sword for fighting on

numerous gory battlefields, the rough

rough which brought him distinction in

fairing days still has the power to

cheer others in difficult moments.

When a Johnnie is in distress Jake

is always Johnnie the Spot with

the right kind of help, and because

of these fine qualities the writer is

proud to call him friend.

• • •

If any of you think it lots o' fun to

be Scotch these days, consider

the following items and you'll agree:

If you're a joiner, then the Knights of Pythias.

If you're a member of the League of Nations.

If you're a member of the Order of the Good

Sheep.

If you're a member of the Order of the

Pythians.

If you're a member of the Order of the

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## SHIRTS FOR MEN

Men's shirts of fine heatherdown material, with the new Tex-Craft collar, dressy patterns. Price \$2

## MEN'S OVERALLS

The Cowboy King pants for long and satisfaction wear. Price \$2.15

## SHOES

Young men's leather, solid leather soles, smart style, dressy.

Special \$3.75 Pair

## KNITTING WOOL

New stock Corticelli wool. This wool washes well. Lovely shades for spring.

2 Balls 35c

## GROCERIES

## Fruit Special

1 tin raspberries, 1 tin red raspberries,

1 tin pineapple, 1 tin apricots,

All sizes—each 60c

BUNNY BOY—Breakfast cereal 40c

6-lb bag

## Spring Cleaning Special

1 tin Johnston's Wax

1 tin Johnston's Goo-Coat

The Two for \$1.25

TOMATO JUICE—Aylmer, 3 tins for

25c

CHEESE—Star Special, 4 lbs 14c

TEA—Our Special Blend, very fine

1 lb 55c

## FRUIT AND VEGETABLES

ASPARAGUS—RIPE TOMATOES

ORANGES—large sweet and juicy,

3 doz. 1.00

BANANAS—2 lbs 25c

CAULIFLOWER—Fresh 15c & 20c

LETTUCE—Hard head 10c

Mr. J. H. Stiles was a weekend visitor in Bassano.

E. G. Calbeck spent last weekend at his home in Calgary.

## Local and Personal News

If you know of an item for this column, let us know. We appreciate your help in recording the comings and goings of yourself, friends and relatives. Phone 19.

Mrs. J. H. Stiles was a weekend visitor in Bassano.

R. J. Dillingham of the Liqueur Board and W. A. Stacey, superintendent of building, were in Bassano last week in connection with the proposed addition to the vendor's area here.

H. F. MacDonald of High River was in town on Wednesday renewing acquaintances. Mr. MacDonald is a former resident of Bassano, having lived here for a number of years.

Mr. Campbell, district passenger superintendent for the Canadian Pacific Railways, was in business call in Bassano this week.

Miss V. McCannell was a visitor in Calgary last week.

Dr. A. Wilson attended in Calgary last week on a business trip.

A pair of bluebirds were seen in Bassano last Friday. A sure sign of spring!

Dr. B. E. Barlow returned recently from the east, where he has been for the past week.

Dan McLeod was in Medicine Hat last Friday preparatory to moving there in the near future.

David Nixon of Clancy was in town Wednesday, and while here attended the board of trade luncheon meeting.

Mr. and Mrs. J. H. Sandgathe and son are visiting in Calgary. The three flew up last week in Dr. A. G. Scott's plane.

Mrs. L. Schaefer was called to Medicine Hat on the death of Mr. Jacob Schaefer. The funeral will be held this Sunday.

## SPRING TRAVEL BARGAINS

## to PACIFIC COAST

## VANCOUVER VICTORIA

## and points Nelson, Revelstoke and West

## APRIL 3 to 11

## Return Limit 21 Days

## CHOICE OF TRAVEL IN COACHES - TOURISTS OR STANDARD SLEEPERS

Fares slightly higher for Tourist or Standard Sleepers. Application to usual berth charge

## STOPOVERS AT BANFF NELSON OR WEST

For additional information apply CANADIAN PACIFIC

## MEN'S HEATHER SOCKS

Pure wool, made in Calgary, the half dozen Chief, well known for long wear.

Price 50c Pair

## SPRING CAPS

Silk lined tweed caps of the season's new patterns.

Price \$1.45

## NEW PRINTS

Crisp new clean patterns for your house and tubs.

Price 5 Yards \$1

## Classified Ads

WORK WANTED.—General house-work or caring for children, etc. Industries. Competent. Apply at The Mail.

3p

FOR TRADE—50 acres unimproved good land in B.C. Will trade for real good tractor. Apply at The Mail.

60c

WILL TRADE—Farm near Strathmore for small place outskirts Bassano, clear titles. What have you? W. REHILL, Strathmore.

1-p

SUNDAY SCHOOL 11:00 a.m.  
Evening Service 7:30 p.m.  
Services Conducted by C. W. Pickup

## How to Kill a Branch

1. Don't attend meetings.

2. If you go, go late.

3. If the weather isn't pleasant, stay home.

4. Don't accept any office; it's easier to criticize.

5. Never approve anything your officers or committees do.

6. Don't pay your dues until you have to.

7. Don't bother recruiting new members.

8. Insist on official notices being sent you, but don't pay any attention to them.

9. Don't waste any courtesy in a branch meeting. It's up to our officers to take it.

10. When you don't like what's going on, say so, but don't offer any concrete suggestions.

11. Devote most of your time to talking, let someone else do the work.

12. Encourage disagreement among your fellow-members. A nice argument is always so exciting.

13. Tell everyone about your branch to non-members.

14. Keep your eye on what the branch owns you. Don't worry about what you own the branch.

15. If elected a delegate to attend a division or provincial convention, don't bother about attending any sessions.

16. Then you can go home and report that the organization is in the hands of a scifh eloquent and there's no use trying to do anything about it. You always think the worst about everybody.

17. Look for hidden motives; don't credit any of your comrades with any ideals.

Remember, you know more about another than you do about him. If they don't agree with you, they're wrong.

20. Don't cooperate with any officer or committee; make them co-operate with you—Exchange.

telling us we won't let us in on any more stories. Here's an old one of our own that will bear retelling.

Counsel was trying to discredit a woman and asked him how many children she had. "Two," he said. "Two?" After a few other questions the harlot said significantly:

"You say we have two children?"

The judge quietly intervened: "He told you a few minutes ago he had two children; and I dare say scarcely likely to have been any new arrivals since your first question."

## You . . .

will find at the Koffee Counter just what you have always been looking for: Lunches quickly and inexpensively at very attractive prices.

Sandwiches—Pies, Cake, etc.

## HAMBURGERS—10¢

With Pickles or Real Spanish Onion

## ICE CREAM

## SHORTY'S

## KOFFEE

## OUNTER

Guy Foster, Prop. Phone 18

## SPECIAL EASTER FARES

Between all stations in Canada

## FARE and ONE TENTH

Good in Coaches only

## FARE and ONE THIRD

In Sleeping and Parlor Cars

on payment berth charge

## GOING DATES:

APR. 9 to 2 p.m. Apr. 13

Return until April 14

Apply Ticket Agent

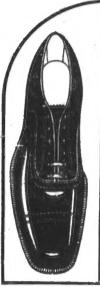
## CANADIAN PACIFIC

For additional information apply CANADIAN PACIFIC

Men's Footwear Week  
2 of Canada's Outstanding Values

## Durabilt Work Boots

The man who wants something for nothing always kicks if he gets nothing for something

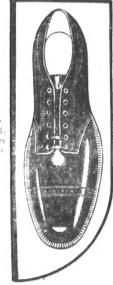


WEAR DURABILT BOOTS  
and get VALUE for your MONEY

Durabilt are made from Plump Soft Leather, Solid Sole, securely nailed to solid insoles, fitted steel arch supports, half Hollow Tongue, guaranteed counter that stands up, character and wear in every part. Black or chocolate, plain toe or lace-up. Priced at, Pair—

\$8.95

WELL BE GLAD TO SHOW THEM



## Men's Dress Shoes

Featuring the Famous

## Hartt Oxfords

for men. We pride ourselves in selling such fine quality shoes as Hartt's INVADER and CHIEF-SAYER Brand—the shoes which combine beauty of appearance with the very best mid-soil and workmanship that can be put into them.

## STYLISH

Sold at a Price Within the Reach of Most Men.

Come in Black Calf and Black Kid Leather or Half-moon Styles. Priced at, pair

6.50 7.00 7.50

HARTT CANADA'S BEST SHOEMAKERS

## » NEW MILLINERY «

## The First Consignment from the East Has Arrived

See the very latest Spring and Summer Styles in Ladies' Hats. Published from Parisian Models. Up-to-the-minute styles at very moderate prices. Each

1.95 2.50 2.95

Silk Crepe Dresses, the very latest styles, fashioned from fine quality crepes, come in plain colors and floral patterns. Priced at, each

\$3.95

LINGERIE DRESSES—10¢ PLAIN, BROCADE, LEATHER and SPARKLE-GLITTER. Materials in Plain Flannel and stripe effects, come in very new Spring and summer styles, every garment price-brunk, guaranteed sun-fade and tub-fast. Priced at, each

1.00 1.50 1.95

Orient Silk Hose in New Spring Colors. Closer for lasting freshness. Canada's finest silk stockings. Crepe, Chiffon, Satin, Crepe-weight. All priced at, pair

\$1.00

Come in the new Spring and Summer colors, including Apache, Cock full, Camping, Cupid variety, etc. Lighter tones will be featured this year.

## GROCERY DEPARTMENT

WHOLE WHEAT BERRIES—8 oz. pkts., 2 for 23c

KETCHUP—Heinz Tomato, 12 oz. bottles 2 for 47c

DAIRY—Pitted, fresh and moist, 2 lb 27c

SOUPS—Heinz Spinach Mushroom, large tins, 2 for 33c

BAKEASY—Burn's Vegetable Shortening 2 pkts. 35c

CANNED FRUITS—1 tin pineapple, 1 tin peaches, 1 tin cherries, 3 tins 55c

CANNED BEANS—Green Cut or Water choice, No. 2 tins, 2 for 29c

DATE BUTTER—Ideal spread for sandwiches, cakes, etc., 4 lb tin 53c

CHEESE—Burn's Golden Loaf, 1 lb pkt 29c

FRESH ARRIVALS for the week-end—Crisp Head Lettuce — Fresh B.C. Rhubarb — Fine Golden Ripe Bananas — Oranges — Lemons — Apples.

CHORE GIRLS—Cleans pots and pans instantly, 3 for

MIRACLE YEAST—Dry, fast rising, per pkt.

JIFF MEAT BALLS—with cereal and gravy, 8-oz. tins, 2 for

CANDY—Fresh Jelly Beans, assorted, per lb

TEA—Victoria Cross, Indo-Ceylon, 1b 47c

COFFEE—Rex Brand, tin contains 3 lbs coffee and a handsome cup and saucer. Per lb

PURE TAR SOAP—Olympic Shampoo, 3 bars

LAUNDRY SOAP—Pearl White Naphtha, 11 bars

## McKEE'S STORES

"Always at Your Service" Phone 9 for Prompt Delivery